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Alkyl Ether Modified Polycyclic Compounds Having a Terminal Phenol and Uses  
for Protection of Cells

**Abstract**

Methods and compositions are provided for achieving a cytoprotective effect by selecting a polycyclic compound with a phenol group at one end of the molecule and a carbon ring at the other such that an alkyl ether functional group in which the alkyl group has a formula  $C_n H_{2n+1}$  (where  $n$  is at least 3 and less than 20) is positioned on the carbon ring. The compound may be used to achieve a cytoprotective effect in cells and to retard the development of a degenerative condition in a subject suffering from a disease, trauma or aging.

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